

### Claims

- 1 1. Method for recognizing speech,  
- wherein a received utterance (U) is subjected to a recognition process  
in its entirety,  
- wherein a rough estimation is made on whether or not said received  
5 utterance (U) is accepted or rejected in its entirety,  
- wherein in the case of accepting said utterance (U) it is thoroughly  
reanalyzed so as to extract its meaning and/or intention, and  
- wherein based on the reanalysis keywords and/or key-phrases are  
extracted from the utterance (U) essentially being representative for its  
10 meaning.
2. Method according to claim 1,  
wherein in the case of rejecting the utterance (U) a rejection signal is  
generated.
- 15 3. Method according to claim 2,  
wherein as said rejection signal a reprompting signal and/or in the case  
of a dialogue system an invitation to repeat/restart the last utterance (U) is  
generated and/or output.
- 20 4. Method according to anyone of the preceding claims,  
wherein for said rough estimation on accepting/rejecting the utterance a  
rough and/or simple confidence measure (CMU) for the entire utterance (U) is  
determined.
- 25 5. Method according to anyone of the preceding claims,  
wherein said reanalysis of the received utterance (U) is based on a  
sentence analysis, in particular based on a grammar, syntax, semantic  
analysis and/or the like.
- 30 6. Method according to anyone of the preceding claims,  
wherein a thorough estimation is made on whether or not said extracted  
keywords and/or key-phrases are accepted or rejected.

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1    **7.**    Method according to claim 6,  
         wherein for said thorough estimation on accepting/rejecting said key-  
         phrases and/or keywords a detailed and/or robust confidence measure (CMK)  
         for each single key-phrase or keyword is determined in particular on demand.

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**8.**    Method according to claim 7,  
         wherein a confidence measure (CMK) for the single key-phrase/keyword  
         is determined only if in the step of deriving said key-phrase/keyword and  
         indication therefore occurs so as to reduce the computational burden.

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